Stoppage of Express Trains at Paras Nath Station

3038. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stoppage has not provided to Purushottam Express, Poorva Express and Kalka Mail at Parasnath Station in Eastern Railway so far; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of availability of other services and lack of traffic justification, it is not proposed to stop these trains at Parasnath.

E.D. Employees

3039. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of the E.D. staff working now in different zones of P&T Department;

(b) the number of E.D. staff regularised during the last three years; and

(c) the time frame by which all the ED staff are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Department of Post has 3,09,825 Extra Departmental Employees working on 31.3.96 Circlewise details are enclosed as Statement.

(b) The information is being collected from the field units and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Extra Departmental employees are a preferred category for recruitment to the regular Departmental Group 'D' and Postmen cadres of the Department of Post. Recruitment to Group 'D' is made from amongst the eligible Extra Departmental staff on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness. 50% of the vacancies in the cadre of Postmen are filled up from amongst Departmental Group 'D' officials, who, in turn, come from Extra Departmental employees. The remaining 50% vacancies in the cadre of Postmen are filled up in the following manner :

(i) 25% from amongst Extra Departmental employees with a minimum of 15 years of service on the basis of their seniority; and

(ii) 25% amongst Extra Departmental employees on the basis of their merit in the Departmental Examination.

It would be seen from the above that the vacancies in Group 'D' and the Postmen cadres are entirely filled up from amongst Extra Departmental employees. Thus recruitment of Extra Departmental exployees in Departmental Group 'D' and Postmen cadres depends upon factors like availability of vacancies, fulfilment of the eligibility criteria etc. Therefore, no time frame by which the ED staff are likely to be regularised can be given.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of Circle	Number of ED Employees
1.	Assam	9,043
2.	Andhra Pradesh	30,076
3.	Bihar	20,119
4.	Delhi	527
5.	Gujarat	17,673
6.	Haryana	4,384
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6,670
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,945
9.	Karnataka	17,391
10.	Kerala	12,713
11.	Madhya Pradesh	23,300
12.	Maharashtra	25,417
13.	North East	6,820
14.	Orissa	18,408
15.	Punjab	6,443
16.	Rajasthan	16,480
17.	Tamilnadu	25,375
18.	Uttar Pradesh	43,799
19.	West Bengal	22,236
		3,09,825

Construction of Railway Bridge

3040. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Techno-economic Survey and design of rail cum-road bridge across river Brahamaputra at Bogibil has been taken up;

(b) if so, the time by which the work on the above bridge is likely to be started; and

(c) the amount allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.